

REVIEWS

PAGEANT OF THE NORTH.

A photographic adventure in Canada's north. Edited by CLIFFORD WILSON. *The Ryerson Press, Toronto. 1957. 11¼ x 8¼ inches; 176 pages. \$5.50.*

About ten years ago an attractive and popular book of photographs reproduced from *The Beaver* was published. It provided in convenient form a generous selection from the many hundreds of technically outstanding and beautiful illustrations for which the Hudson's Bay Company magazine is famous.

The present volume contains about 175 black and white full-page photographs also reproduced from *The Beaver*, about half of them having been taken since the earlier volume was published. Clifford Wilson has arranged the photographs into a dozen groups and has provided a brief introduction for them. Representative titles of these "chapters" are "Indians", "Birds and Beasts", "Ships and Boats", "Eskimos", "The Newcomers".

The work of more than fifty photographers is represented — which itself emphasizes how much *The Beaver* has done and continues to do to encourage high quality photography in the frontier regions of Canada. While many of the pages show the work of professionals whose reputations were already established elsewhere — Margaret Bourke-White of *Life* is notable among them — there are also many amateur photographs which are in no way inferior, among them the work of well-known northern travellers such as L. A. Learmonth, J. H. Webster and A. W. Banfield.

Photographs which have stood the test of the years and which seem likely to hold a permanent place as northern

documentaries include Brigdens' "Plains Indian in native dress", F. Dalman's "Manitoba Trapper", Bob Stewart's pictures of Eskimos made a generation ago, R. N. Hourde's "portraits" of the venerable "Distributor" and the extraordinarily moving studies of water birds by the late Lorene Squire, to whom the book is fittingly dedicated.

The reviewer was glad to see A. L. Learmonth's "Northwest Passage, Bellot Strait" once more, if only as a timely reminder that this route between west and east was familiar to traders long before its much publicized transit by naval vessels in the 1957 summer.

Pageant of the North is a useful book to keep on hand for occasional study and reference (even though the reviewer failed to locate among its many wildlife views a representative shot of "an arctic seal" called for urgently by an enquiring sculptress). The book is also very suitable to send as a gift to friends at home or overseas, particularly those who merit something characteristically Canadian.

Long may the happy teamwork of the Hudson's Bay Company, Clifford Wilson, Brigdens Ltd. (who made the engravings), the printers and publishers continue to give us such splendid, balanced and wide ranging views of the northland.

TREVOR LLOYD

DAWN IN ARCTIC ALASKA.

By DIAMOND JENNESS. *Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1957. 5½ x 8¾ inches; 222 pages; numerous illustrations by GIACOMO RAIMONDI; 6 sketch maps. \$5.50 in Canada.*

The "dawn" of this title refers to a period of new contact with people and